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THE ONION FIEND

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THE ONION FIEND

The most commonplace incidents are often those which are capable of affording the greatest amount of merriment when properly handled and in "The Onion Fiend" our Artist has taken up an everyday nuisance and with the assistance of the most exasperatingly funny surroundings, and photography which has never been excelled, has worked up a story which is one continued laugh from beginning to end, and will surely prove one of the best short comedy subjects produced this year.

Our drama of "tears and laughter" opens with the purchase by a young man, who essays to enact the part of it's hero, of a large supply of succulent and odiferous onions with which he immediately regales himself reckless of consequences and indifferent to the fact that he is making a living and breathing nuisance of himself to his friends and, indeed, to all who come into contact with him.

His first appearance in public after he has feasted to his heart's content is at a pleasant evening party where the ladies and gentlemen are engaged in a progressive card game and apparently passing an agreeable evening. The Onion Fiend being politely received by his hostess is placed at one of the numerous card tables and at once enters into an animated conversation with his associates, but alas something seems to be wrong, smiles fade, and disgust takes their place on the pretty faces of the ladies, and only the close of the game affords relief when the "fragrant" one and his partner, having won their game "progress" up to another table to the great satisfaction of those left behind and corresponding discontent of those who are now to enjoy his peculiar aroma.

From bad to worse and the victims at the new tables are perhaps less patient than those at the other one, at any rate they soon decline to remain in his company and leave the room in a body, in fact so potent is the smell that the entire room is soon emptied leaving the subject of our sketch

alone to speculate upon what was responsible for the sudden disappearance of his friends.

Undeterred by his previous experience we again see our onion loving friend purchasing a fresh supply of his favorite vegetable, which he consumes greedily as he walks down the street on his way to the park where he looks for a seat on which he may enjoy his leisure and his paper at the same time. The only bench he finds is pretty fully occupied, but he takes his seat after some discussion and makes himself comfortable and the other occupants most uncomfortable, as one by one they appreciate his proximity and leave hurriedly to seek a sweeter atmosphere. When he has the bench to himself he stretches on it full length and appears to enjoy the consternation which his presence causes.

A familiar scene in a Palm Garden is next presented with the guests seated at tables and enjoying themselves enter the Onion Fiend, who makes his way to a table at which he sees some of his acquaintances and is kindly welcomed by them. But Alas! the same old story is enacted and one by one his friends are overpowered by the odor and stand, not upon the order of their going, but go at once. The same thing happens at the next table he visits, whose occupants leave their untasted refreshments to escape this pest of society.

The last act is reached when the young man tries to ingratiate himself with a pretty nursemaid who is giving baby an airing in the Park.

He presses his attentions upon her, but for the same old reason, she don't seem to appreciate them and as he will not desist she finally hands him over to a Park Policeman on a charge of "mashing."

And now the Onion Fiend's fate would seem to be settled for the cop runs his victim along and tightly holding his nose to mitigate the smell, proceeds to walk him off to the Patrol Wagon, but human endurance is limited and the poor cop finds that he cannot stand for it even with his nose closed, and despairing of being able to endure it any longer, delivers one mighty kick where it will do most good and lets the eater of onions go to afflict other victims with his nefarious habits.

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